

as their communion is concerned, for they have no vacant pulpits and no idle pastors. It would seem therefore that the first thing the other denominations ought to do is to supply their deficiency in common sense. If on the one hand there are unsupplied churches and on the other unemployed preachers, why can't they be brought together? It is inconceivable that these churches should not desire pastors. They do want pastors, and want them badly, but are at a loss how to find them. On the other hand there are plenty of unemployed preachers who desire an engagement, but who are nevertheless restrained by a sense of delicacy and self respect from soliciting calls. Now these are the very preachers you want to get. But how are they to be reached?

Permit us to offer a suggestion. Let the next Conference appoint a central committee which shall be empowered to act as a bureau of information, a go-between, for preachers and churches that are looking for each other. This committee can easily get full information concerning such churches and preachers, and be thus instrumental in bringing them together. For example, in one book they will have a list of vacant churches with the characteristics of each carefully noted. In another book they can have a list of unemployed preachers with the known qualities of each carefully noted. From this data they can advise churches and preachers, bring those together that are suited to each other, and thus solve, as nearly as can be done without arbitrary appointment, this very serious problem. We trust that earnest thought may be awakened along this line, and that something practical will be done at our next Conference.

To build up the weak churches is the very essence of home mission work. A condition of things which makes possible unsupplied pulpits and unemployed preachers in the same denomination is so hurtful to the cause, and withal so inexcusable, that it ought not to be allowed to exist for a day. If all our preachers were at work there are yet too few to cover our available field. Brethren, take this matter under your most earnest and prayerful advisement. Let something be done, something practical and effective, and a little time will show most encouraging results.

Miscellaneous Editorial Paragraphs

Wanted: A dozen capitalist who believe in eternity strong enough to invest in it.

The heavenward devotion which does not warm the heart earthward is but a feeble flame and sends no sweet incense upward.

To fly on the wings of enthusiasm is beautiful, but patient plodding in paths of practical righteousness reaches realms of bliss.

If the church was as zealous for the internals of religion as they are for the externals, Jacob's ladder would be let down and the angels would come again. But how can they, seeing the hearts?

A friend said to a mother whose son had been appointed a foreign missionary, "I trust you will be able to give him up for the work." "O," she said, "I gave him up in his infancy to God, but I never knew until now where the Lord

wanted him." Probably if the children of all Christian parents were thus dedicated and consecrated to the Lord in their infancy the demand for laborers for the Master's field would be supplied.

To be angered by criticism is pretty good evidence that we deserve the criticism. Wise and strong is the man who can listen patiently, impartially and without irritation to what his most unsympathetic and unsparing critic can say about him or about his work.

A boxing match under the auspices of a church came off some time ago in Jersey city. The affair was arranged by the Christ Evangelical Lutheran church, with the pastor, Dr. Rabbow, as referee. The contestants were two chubby-faced youngsters, 7 years old, and no blood was spilt. The pastor, it is said, believes in encouraging the manly art among the boys. Such an affair, however, managed by the church is utterly out of place and can have no good effect on the world outside. It brings the church into disrepute.

Leslie M. Shaw, the secretary of the Treasury, at one of the recent meetings of the Cabinet, gravely and sedately engaged attention of the President as tho he were about to introduce to his attention some weighty matter. After properly leading up to the subject he proposed the appointment of a chaplain to open the Cabinet meetings with prayer. The President at once fell into the vein and commanded the idea, but in the selection of the chaplain each and every member of the Cabinet had his choice, and to this day the office is still vacant owing to the fact that in the multitude of his counselors the President has been unable to fix on any divine whose ministrations would be acceptable to all the members of the Cabinet. There could be no better evidence of the need of the office proposed by the secretary than the fact of this disagreement. We trust that an agreement may be reached and the guidance and blessings of the Holy One invoked in the counsels of the chief officers of the nation.

Some one who has made an experiment says that hand-shaking is an index to character. Shake hands with a man and you can tell something about his health. The firm, hearty handshake of a sincere man may be rather rough, so that one is taught he has a grip, but it indicates stamina. While denoting absence of tact and refinement, it points to physical strength. The flabby hand that returns no pressure belongs to the person who has no great strength of body or mind. The quick, nervous handshake of an excitable, nervous temperament, and its opposite, the nerveless passive one, belongs to persons in ill health. The feel of the hand called magnetic means health and kindness and a desire to help others. In many ways we may decide character by the hand as well as by the brain. Just how much of character and bodily health can be determined by the handshake we do not know, but certain it is that the spiritual health of a man may very readily be determined by the shake of the hand he gives you. Take some Christians by the hand and you are made to feel the material side of a lifeless soul; it is like coming in touch with a statue, there is no response, no outflow, of the heart or soul filled with the divine power and spirit of God. There is a vast difference in touching a dead or a living thing.